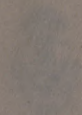


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SKETCH
OF ALL THE
INVASIONS, OR DESCENTS,
UPON THE
BRITISH ISLANDS,
FROM THE
LANDING OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.
WITH ADDITIONS, AND A CONTINUATION TO THE PRESENT TIME,
BY THE TRANSLATOR.

By J. J. Stockdale
SECOND EDITION.

Illustrated with a CHART of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, and the surrounding Coasts, from the
MEDITERRANEAN to the NORTH SEA, on which every Descent is correctly delineated.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR JOHN STOCKDALE, PICCADILLY,
1803.

Price 2s. 6d.

SKETCH

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INVASIONS. OR DESCENTS.



FROM THE

DA

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S. GOSNELL, Printer,
Little Queen Street, Holborn.

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Price 2s. 6d.

PREFACE

TO THE
FIRST EDITION.

IN an advertisement prefixed to the original Tract published in Paris 1797, the writer professes to have for his principal object, that of convincing the French nation, from these precedents, that the invasion and conquest of England and her dependencies is not only possible, but very practicable. The view of the English editor is from the self-same facts to prove exactly the reverse, by affording his fellow-countrymen, from the minutes before them, a certainty of every attempt to invade their territory being rendered impotent and ineffectual, so long as they remain firmly united and true to their interests, as indissolubly connected with the best of kings and the most glorious constitution in the world. They will observe, that an invading enemy, unless he met with most material assistance from the inhabitants themselves, has been uniformly compelled to retire with merited disgrace and defeat; and particularly in our present state, from the able dispositions of our Royal Commander in Chief, and the Admiralty Board, seconded by our gallant heroes by land and sea, should chance permit a foreign force to reach our coasts, even a retreat could scarcely be effected, or the invaders rescue themselves and their ships from almost inevitable destruction. The general disposition of the people cannot be more satisfactorily shewn than by the alacrity

and good conduct of our patriotic volunteers: and whatever may have been the temporary hardships arising from the pressure of the times, by the unjustifiable prices of corn, the good sense of the people of England, so eminently displayed in all their actions, will convince their foes, internal as well as external, that they will unite heart and hand for the defence of their property and support of their laws; and that whatever defects there may be in their constitution, or out of it, they will not submit to the regimen of any physicians from France.

The figures placed upon the map, under the ships which represent the invading squadrons, correspond with those prefixed to each historical account of the particular expeditions

J. J. S.

Piccadilly, 1st August 1801.

SKETCH OF INVASIONS,

Æt. Æt.

I. } **W**ILLIAM Duke of Normandy was cousin to
Conquest of England by } Edward the Confessor, who had intended him for
William Duke of Nor- } his successor. His claims to the throne of Eng-
mandy, 1066. } land were founded upon this intention, and upon
being the nearest relative of the deceased king. Harold, the son of Good-
win, Earl of Kent, had acknowledged and taken an oath in his presence,
at the foot of the altar, to support him with his utmost strength and credit.
In contempt of this oath, and the rights of William, he however caused
himself to be crowned king at the end of the year 1065.

Tofti, Harold's brother, at that time governor of Northumberland,
was accused of misdemeanors, and banished from England. Having taken
refuge in Flanders, he obtained a succour of sixty ships, with which he
laid waste the English coasts from east to south. Halfager, King of
Norway, joining him with three hundred vessels, they entered the Humber
together, disembarked many troops, obtained advantages, advanced into
the country, and were killed in an action which took place at Stamford
Bridge, near York, and their soldiers re-embarked.

William.

William had sent ambassadors to Harold, soon after his accession, to summon him to restore the crown, and, on his refusal, made preparations for reducing him to subjection. The greatest difficulty consisted in procuring the money necessary for an enterprise of such magnitude. Being unable to obtain from his Norman states the sums he was in want of, he had recourse to private persons, all of whom contributed according to their means. One individual alone undertook the fitting out of forty ships at his own expense. William had very accurate accounts kept of the assistance he received, regarding them as so many titles to rewards, which he promised to confer after the conquest. From the moment of the projected invasion being known, multitudes flocked to William with proffered services; and it was not so difficult to complete his army, as to make choice of the most distinguished subjects, or reject the numerous offers of those who sued for the honour of serving under so illustrious a chief.

William found himself possessed of a fleet of nine hundred and seven sail, exclusive of transports, and an army of sixty thousand men. Pointing towards the English coast, "There," said he to his soldiers, "shall you erect trophies to your glory."

All his land and sea forces united at the mouth of the Dive in Normandy. He ran along the coast as far as St. Valery, from whence he set sail the 28th of September, and arrived at Pevensey, in Suffex, where he landed without opposition, and without having fallen in with the English fleet. The inhabitants betook themselves to flight with extraordinary marks of dismay.

Harold was rejoicing at the defeat of Tosti and Halfager when he received the news of this descent. "Then landed," say the Norman Chronicles, "all the choice archers, who were lightly clothed and close shaved; then the armed men ready for combat, who formed, in order of battle, upon the coast; next the carriages, horses, provisions and other necessities;

necessaries ; after them followed carpenters, masons, and handicrafts, who hoisted out three wooden castles ready for fixing ; and last came William." In stepping upon the beach he stumbled, and falling, exclaimed, with great presence of mind, *I take possession of the country.*

He set fire to all his ships, or, as others say, he sent the fleet back to Normandy ; certain it is, that he left his brethren in arms no hope of returning again. The first order he issued was, that the country should not be laid waste, but respect be shewn to a nation that he wished to be indebted to him for its happiness. He then marched towards Hastings, of which he took possession ; Harold likewise pursued the same course. On the 15th October the two armies came in fight at a place called Battle, the chiefs burning for an engagement, regarded by both as decisive.

William formed his army into three columns. He reminded his soldiers, that, under him, they had always been successful ; that they had, a hundred times, beaten the northern nations, who were much more formidable enemies than the English ; that they were all under the necessity of conquering or perishing with him, all means of retreat being done away ; and that the sea was at their backs. He concluded in these words : " Let us consider ourselves as men who must be, at the close of the day, either dead or victorious." Then putting himself at the head of the cavalry, he made the signal for engaging, and the whole army at once moved forward, singing Roland's martial hymn. The English were attacked in their entrenchments ; Harold and two of his brothers perished in the action, and William gained a complete victory.

Never was a scheme formed with so little chance of success ; the Norman forces could by no means be compared to those of England, nor had William any expectations of assistance from the English. This expedition has in general been judged of only by the promptitude of its success ; be that as it may, one battle gave up to a foreign nation a country, which
neither

neither the Danes, Saxons, nor even the Romans themselves, could subjugate, but after endless conflicts, and in the space of many ages. This brought the Anglo-Saxons' reign, which had continued 600 years, to a conclusion.

After this ever-memorable victory, William, choosing to secure a retreat in case of a reverse of fortune, took possession of Dover. The Normans burnt it, and, in so doing, afforded him an opportunity of displaying his moderation by indemnifying the proprietors. He then marched towards London, and took post in the borough of Southwark, which he afterwards reduced to ashes, to shew the inhabitants of the capital the fate which threatened them if they should persist in holding out. They resolved, therefore, to give up the keys of the city to the conqueror, and make him an offer of the crown.

2. The Irish plunder the environs of Exeter, 1069. } Godwin, Edmond, and Magnus, Harold's sons, upon the death of their father withdrew into Ireland, the king of which, Dermot, fitted out for them a fleet of sixty-five sail. They landed in Devonshire near Exeter, fought several battles, plundered the villages they took possession of, and returned to Ireland with a considerable booty.

3. Descent of the Danes upon the Humber, 1069. } Several English nobles, who were dissatisfied with William, and who revolted in 1068, obtained assistance from foreign powers. Sueno, King of Denmark, armed in their favour 200 ships, which came to anchor at the mouth of the Humber. The disembarkation of the troops was effected without difficulty; the malcontents of Northumberland joined them; they marched to the city of York, which they took, and retired laden with plunder to between the Ouse and Trent. William, who saw the danger of giving them battle, gained them over by money to consent to withdraw at the beginning of spring.

Robert,

4. Robert lands at Portsmouth, 1101.

} Robert, the elder brother of William II. was frustrated in his intention of succeeding to the throne by his younger brother Henry I. He was then at the Holy Land. On his return, determining to be revenged for this usurpation, he resolved to attack England. Henry, on his part, equipped a fleet for the purpose of opposing his brother's attempt; but hardly had Robert put to sea before the king found himself abandoned by most of his ships. The projected landing was effected at Portsmouth, and its success would have been certain, had not Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, made peace between the two brothers, and prevailed on Robert to content himself with the next succession to the crown; which, however, he never enjoyed.

5. Arrival of the Empress Matilda at Portsmouth, 1139.

} Henry I. caused his daughter Matilda, first married to the Emperor Henry V. and afterwards to Geoffrey Count of Anjou, to be acknowledged his heir. It was then a subject of dispute whether women had the right of succeeding to the throne. Stephen, Henry's nephew, resting upon the non-establishment of this right, by the aid of the Bishop of Winchester, supplanted his cousin. He soon collected a party of discontented persons. Troubles broke out, and Matilda resolved to turn them to her advantage. The malcontents came forward, declaring they were ready to place the crown upon her head, agreeably to the promise they had given her father. She accordingly went to England in the month of September with her brother Robert Earl of Gloucester, and landed at Portsmouth. She brought with her only 150 men; but her party soon gaining strength, the flames of civil war were lighted up, and Stephen was made prisoner. The coronation of Matilda, and re-establishment of Stephen upon the throne, took place shortly after.

While

6. Henry, son of the Count of Anjou, goes to England, 1142. } While Stephen was prisoner, and Matilda's attention was fixed upon the affairs of England alone, the Earl of Anjou got possession of Normandy. The Earl of Gloucester went thither to fetch Henry, the son of Geoffrey of Anjou and Matilda, then only eighteen years of age. They came to England, and landed at Wareham. The war continued; success was equal on either side; and the following year Matilda, seeing the number of her partisans diminish, took the resolution of returning back to Normandy.

7. Henry again goes to England, 1152. } Henry, ten years afterwards, again recalled by the friends he had in England, landed there with forces sufficiently considerable to give new vigour to his mother's party, which appeared to be entirely put down. The malcontents joined him. He took thirty castles, and Stephen resolved to conclude a treaty of peace with him, which was signed at Winchester, whereby he was acknowledged his successor.

8. Henry II. lands in Ireland, 1171. } Ireland has had several foreign invaders. A king of Northumberland committed great devastations there. The Norwegians afterwards took possession, and remained masters of it for thirty years. Some people from Germany, whom historians call Ermanni, likewise conquered it; and Edgar, King of England, subjected it to his laws. The Irish afterwards had a war among themselves, which terminated in the division of their country among many chiefs who took the title of king. A disagreement divided two of these kings, the weakest of whom had recourse to the English for help; and this was the epoch wherein Ireland lost its independence.

Dermot, King of Ireland, panting for revenge against the King of Connaught, sent to require assistance from Henry II. who advised him to address

addresses some barons whom he pointed out. The barons, accepting Dermot's propositions, accompanied him to Ireland, landed near Waterford with 500 men, made themselves masters of Wexford; and, in short, advanced with such rapidity in the country, that Henry became jealous, and even trembled at their progress. Resolving upon the conquest of that country for himself, he got together a fleet of 500 large ships in Milford Haven, and, embarking in person, landed with all his forces in the vicinity of Waterford, and rendered himself master of the island without shedding a drop of blood.

9. }
The French invade Eng-
land, 1216.

The barons had declared war upon King John; seeing their party weaken, they tendered the crown to Louis, son of Philip Augustus, who then reigned in France, and who fitted out a fleet of 600 sail. Louis landed May the 23d on the Isle of Thanet, between Sandwich and the mouth of the Thames. John marched to Dover with the intention of opposing his landing; but conceiving that he could make but an ineffectual resistance, he retired to Winchester, where he set on foot a considerable army, and proposed deciding the fate of his crown by the event of a pitched battle. The defection of his partisans obliged him to flee towards Newark, where his death delivered England from the danger which equally menaced it either by his failure or success. Louis was not long before he gave the English just grounds for complaint, and he saw himself abandoned by almost all those who had attached themselves to him. For this cause he took the resolution of making an honourable retreat, which was granted him by a treaty concluded the 11th September, when he instantly set off for France; and this event confirmed the crown on the head of Henry III.

10. }
Montmorenci lands at
Dover, 1296.

The unlooked-for disputes between France and England, from the time of Philip Augustus, having been only stifled, were renewed again under

Philip

Philip the Fair. While the English were busied in retaking the places which had been wrested from them in Guienne, the King of France, by way of reprisal, sent a numerous fleet under the command of Matthew de Montmorenci, who effected his landing near Dover, which town he took possession of, and in part burnt. This event was the most important of the whole war, which concluded by an accommodation solicited by Edward I. King of England.

II.
Isabella lands at Orwell, } The Spencers, ministers of Edward II. go-
1326. } verned the king, tyrannized over the nation, and
traduced the queen to her husband. Isabella was daughter of Philip the Fair; she went to France, where she was at first detained by the Spencers against her will. She then took refuge in Holland, and there conceived the design of dethroning Edward. She accordingly made a party in England, and, obtaining succours, embarked at Dordrecht the 24th September with 3000 men, and landed at Orwell, near Harwich, in the county of Suffolk; at which time the king happened to be in London. He commanded the citizens to arm; but they answered, that they had the privilege of not serving without the walls for more than one day; and that only on condition of returning again before sunset.

Edward resorted for assistance to the west of England. Hardly had he set off before the people of London took arms. The manifesto published by Isabella upon her arrival captivated all their suffrages. The tower was taken, and the prisoners, who immediately ranged themselves under the queen's banners, liberated. Spencer, the father, commanded at Bristol, which city was delivered up to Isabella, by whose order he was hanged amidst the reiterated shouts both of the army and multitude. The king, abandoned to himself, wanted to escape to Ireland; but contrary winds again threw him upon the English coast. The young Spencer was with him,

him, and met with the same fate as his father. The king died soon after, and was succeeded by his son Edward III.

12. Charles the Fair dying in 1328 without male issue, his cousin-german, Philip de Valois, first prince of the blood, was unanimously acknowledged his successor. Edward III. as son of Isabella, and in contempt of the law, which excluded women from the right of succeeding to the crown, declared war against Philip, with the intent to dethrone him. England had a numerous, and Philip a good fleet. The French and English fleets having met, an engagement took place, in which the English were worsted; but, notwithstanding, ravaged the suburbs of Boulogne, and burnt some small vessels there. The French retaliated upon Portsmouth, and, after having sacked it, they retired laden with plunder.

13. While Edward, assisted by the famous Arte-
Numerous descents of the } ville, a brewer of Ghent, was making progress in
French, 1340. } Flanders, the French were laying waste the English coasts. About the latter end of the month of May they disembarked at Plymouth, which they burnt almost to the ground. They again embarked, and landed early in June at Hastings, where they burnt several ships; and on the 30th September effected another landing at Southampton, the greater part of which town they reduced to ashes.

14. During the reign of Richard II. the French,
The French take possession } in conjunction with the Scotch, put to sea a
of the Isle of Wight, } powerful fleet. After having made a descent at
1377. } Rye, on the 29th June, they retired with immense
spoil, took the Isle of Wight, on the 21st August, and, in their retreat, made considerable havoc at Portsmouth, Plymouth, Dartmouth, and Hastings.

15. } Lancaster, uncle of Richard II. had the
 Landing of the French and } command of the troops sent against Charles V.
 Spaniards at Winchelsea, } While he was pushing on the war with vigour in
 1380. } France, some French and Spanish row-boats laid
 waste, in the month of June, the coasts of England. The troops they
 threw in, pillaged many towns, and Winchelsea in particular.

16. } Richard II. had given the Duke of Lancaster
 A French fleet destined } some assistance in supporting his right to the
 against England is dis- } crown of Castille. This expedition having de-
 persed by a storm, 1386. } prived the English of their best ships, and choicest
 troops, the French took advantage of those circumstances to make great
 preparations, which tended to nothing less than the conquest of England.
 Nearly 1200 ships were equipped by order of Charles VI. on board
 which upwards of 60,000 men were embarked. This enterprize, un-
 doubtedly formidable, was set aside by a storm which dispersed the ships,
 and sent many of them to the bottom. This event took place on the 31st
 October. On board the ships were planks of wood nicely joined, in-
 tended for the construction of barracks, wherein the army might be
 sheltered immediately upon its disembarkation.

17. } The Duke of Lancaster, who had been obliged
 Descent in the county of } to retire into France for safety, took advantage of
 York, 1398. } the moment in which Richard II. was reducing
 the rebels in Ireland, to return to England. He embarked at Vannes in
 the course of July, set sail with only three ships, and landed upon the
 coast of Yorkshire. The number of malcontents who flew to his standard
 was so considerable, that Richard, on his return, finding himself almost
 deserted, retired into the island of Anglesea, where he was taken. The
 parliament declared him unworthy of the crown, which they placed on
 the head of Henry of Lancaster, with the title of Henry IV. on the
 30th September 1399.

While

18. } While the court was taken up with entertain-
Descent of the French at } ments on account of the marriage of Henry IV.
the Isle of Wight and } the French landed in the Isle of Wight, then
Plymouth, 1403. } under the command of the Count de St. Pol, and
re-embarked after having pillaged several villages.

The same year some ships from the ports of Brittany arrived at Plymouth, which they reduced to ashes.

19. } The year following another descent was in con-
Another invasion of the } templation, to be directed against Dartmouth,
Isle of Wight, 1404. } which several circumstances were unfavourable to.
The ships destined for this expedition went, therefore, again to the Isle of Wight, from whence they retired with considerable booty.

20. } The French, to the number of 12,000 fighting
Landing of the French at } men, effected a landing at Milford in Wales.
Milford under Charles V. } They came on board 140 vessels, and took several
1405. } towns, and Carmarthen among the rest. They
accumulated plunder to a great amount, with which they re-embarked
before Henry IV. who had assembled a large force, could come up to
them.

21. } During the existence of the memorable disputes
Descent of the French at } between the houses of York and Lancaster, in
Sandwich, 1457. } the time of Henry VI. the French made a descent
upon England, surprised Sandwich, and again got off with a great
booty.

On

22. } On the 3d April 1458, a treaty of reconcilia-
 Several descents made by } tion was signed between the heads of the two
 the Earl of Warwick in } houses of York and Lancaster: and as a proof
 England, 1460. } of his sincerity, Henry VI. admitted the Duke of
 York and Earl of Warwick to be of the council. Some time afterwards,
 the Duke of York and his friends suspecting some treachery, under dif-
 ferent pretexts left the court.

The Earl of Warwick went to Calais, of which he was governor. Queen Margaret, not being able to succeed in deposing him from his government, equipped a fleet for the purpose of sending assistance to the Duke of Somerset. Warwick got information of this armament intended against him in Sandwich harbour, and accordingly privately sent from Calais a body of troops commanded by Dinham, which reached Sandwich at daybreak, surprised the officers in their beds, gained over the soldiers and sailors, and brought in the king's ships to Calais.

Warwick afterwards concerted measures with the Duke of York for their mutual defence. Being solicited by the inhabitants of Kent to come to Sandwich to second their efforts by putting themselves at their head, they disembarked there with 1500 men, giving out that their intention was to deliver the people from the oppression under which they groaned, and to secure to them the free exercise of their rights and enjoyment of liberty.

This manifesto produced so great an effect, that their army soon amounted to 40,000 men, at the head of whom they entered London. On the following 19th of July they gave the king's army battle at Northampton, when Henry VI. losing his freedom, the Duke of York became the absolute chief of the government, and his eldest son was proclaimed king in 1461 by the title of Edward IV.

23.
Warwick lands at Dartmouth, 1470.

} The Earl of Warwick, after having contributed in some degree towards the expulsion of Henry VI. and the crowning of Edward IV. discontented, as well as his partisans, with the conduct of the new king, went to France, where Margaret, wife of Henry VI. already was. They were reconciled by Louis XI. and afterwards resolved on dethroning Edward. Louis furnished them with men and money, and on the 25th of September they landed at Dartmouth and Plymouth. The influence the Earl of Warwick had over the minds of the people, and the spirit of party then prevalent in England, assembled under the standard of their former queen upwards of sixty thousand men. His army increased as he advanced, so that, eleven days after his landing, Warwick found himself master of the kingdom, and Edward was obliged to fly to Holland for personal safety. Warwick took Henry from the Tower, and replaced him upon the throne.

24.
Edward lands in Yorkshire, 1471.

} Edward being intent upon nothing but how to regain his lost crown, the Duke of Burgundy, his brother-in-law, furnished him with four large ships, fourteen transports, and about two thousand men. With this small army he left the harbour of Flushing about the middle of March, and the following day arrived off the English coast. Finding his attempts to land at Cromer, in Norfolk, ineffectual, he stood to the northward, and made good his landing the 14th of March, on the coast of Yorkshire. Some troops joined him in his march; and at Barnet a battle took place, in which Warwick lost his life; and Edward was by this event again seated upon the throne of England.

25.
The French land at Weymouth.

} The very day on which the partisans of Henry VI. were defeated by those of Edward IV. Queen Margaret and her son Edward made a descent at Weymouth with troops from France. Receiving encouragement from some friends to her cause, she overran the counties of Devon, Somerset,

and Gloucester, and saw her army greatly increase. Edward coming up with a far more numerous force, she intrenched herself in the Park at Tewkesbury, where, on the 4th May, Edward attacked and took both herself and son prisoners.

26. } The crimes of the Duke of Gloucester, Regent
Landing of Henry Earl of } of the kingdom, who was, upon the death of
Richmond at Milford, } Edward IV. crowned by the title of Richard III.
1485. } excited general complaints. A multitude of exiles
joined Richmond, the chief of the House of Lancaster, in Brittany, and induced him to attempt an invasion. One he had already undertaken, the success of which was frustrated by a violent tempest. He left Harfleur with two thousand men on the 1st August, reached Milford Haven on the 6th, and on the 22d gained the battle of Bosworth, near Leicester, where Richard lost his life and crown, which was picked up on the field of battle, and presented to Richmond, who, from that moment, assumed the throne under the appellation of Henry VII. This was the period at which the reign of the House of Plantagenet concluded, and that of Tudor commenced.

27. } For the purpose of doing away every pretension
Lambert Simnel lands in } to the throne, Henry VII. ordered the young Earl
Lancashire, 1487. } of Warwick, son of the Duke of Clarence, and
first of the House of York, to be shut up in the Tower, to the great displeasure of the people; and his tyranny induced the belief of an error which had nearly lost him his crown. It was given out that young Warwick had escaped from the Tower. This deception Richard Simon, an Oxford priest, carried on in the person of Lambert Simnel, a baker's son, who was crowned at Dublin by the style of Edward VI. Emboldened by this success, he took the resolution of going to England, where he landed with a small army composed of Irish and Germans, which he had been furnished with by Margaret of York, the Dutchess Dowager

of Burgundy ; but he was beaten in the first engagement, which happened at Stoke on the 6th June.

28. } The same Margaret of York set up another pre-
Landing of Perkin War- } tender to the crown. He was the son of a con-
beck at Deal, 1495. } verted Jew of Tournay, named Perkin Warbeck,
who was first brought forward as the young Duke of York, whom Richard had caused to be assassinated in the Tower. On the 3d July he landed at Deal with some troops, but not finding the inhabitants disposed to second his efforts, was under the necessity of re-embarking.

29. } This failure did not disconcert him. He re-
Perkin Warbeck lands in } turned to Ireland, and afterwards to Scotland,
Cornwall, 1498. } where he married a near relation to King James.
Some rebels in Cornwall invited him to put himself at their head ; and on the 7th September he landed on the southern coast of that county with one hundred and twenty or forty men, and four ships. He arrived at Bodmin, followed by about three thousand men, who had assembled round him. He was then proclaimed king by the name of Richard IV. and made an attempt upon Exeter ; but no sooner learnt that a superior force was coming against him, than he submitted on condition of his life being spared.

30. } The flames of war being kindled between
Descent of Prégent in } Louis XII. and Henry VIII. the English were
Suffex, 1513. } so successful by sea, as to be enabled to blockade
Brest harbour completely : they could not, however, prevent Commo-
dore Prégent from landing upon the Suffex coast, and carrying off booty
to a considerable amount.

31. } The same Prégent the year following landed
Other descents made by } more troops on the Suffex coast, and burnt
Prégent upon the Suffex } Brighton.
coast, 1514. }

32. } While Francis I. was at war with Henry VIII.
 The French land upon the } he assembled on the coasts of Normandy a fleet of
 Isle of Wight, 1545. } one hundred and fifty large ships, sixty smaller
 ones, and twenty-five galleys. Notwithstanding the English fleet was
 cruising in those roads, Ennibault landed in the Isle of Wight, where he
 committed some depredations, until obliged by a superior force to re-em-
 bark; but in his retreat effected other descents on the Sussex coast, and
 particularly at Brighton.

33. } Philip II. King of Spain, in the course of this
 The Armada, 1588. } year fitted out the famous expedition known by
 the name of the Armada; or, Invincible Fleet. The particulars of this
 naval enterprize are known to all the world; its magnitude, the most
 considerable that has hitherto ever been seen; its majestic entrance into
 the Channel on the 12th July; its formidable position in presence of
 the British fleet; its being dispersed by a most violent tempest, and retreat
 upon the coasts of Picardy, where light fire-ships, which the English
 filled with Greek fire, consumed part, and threw the remainder into the
 greatest confusion.

Favour prevailed in appointing the Duke of Medina Sidonia to the
 command of the Armada, though he had no other claim to this important
 situation than what his birth gave him; and this circumstance contributed
 not a little to the defeat of a squadron which might have justified the name
 of *Invincible*, had it been under the command of an experienced officer.

The Armada is delineated on the chart in the position in which the
 British admiral, who observed it, reports it to have advanced, in the form
 of a half-moon, the extremities of which were about seven miles from
 each other.

Notwithstanding

34. Disembarkation of the Spaniards in Mount's Bay, 1594. } Notwithstanding the superiority of the English navy, and the prodigious number of ships destined for the security of the British coasts, the Spaniards, in the month of July, entered Mount's Bay, in Cornwall, with four galleys, commanded by Don Diego Brochen. They put some troops on shore, burned Mouth-hole, Newlin, and Penzance, and then re-embarked.

35. Descent of the Spaniards in Ireland, 1601. } The Irish being in rebellion against Elizabeth, applied to the Spaniards for assistance. The king sent Don Juan d'Aguilar with forty-eight ships and four thousand foldiers, who landed at Kinsale, and took the town, but was afterwards defeated, and obliged, conformably to the capitulation signed the 2d January 1602, to return with his troops to Spain.

36. Ruyter lays waste the English coasts, 1667. } The repeated applications of the States General, under the influence of De Witt, the pensioner, determined France to declare war against England the 19th January 1666. England had to sustain a naval war against the united forces of France, Holland, and Denmark. Her fleet, commanded by Prince Rupert and General Monk, consisted of seventy-eight sail of the line, besides frigates and fire-ships: that of the Dutch, which De Ruyter had the command of, was seventy-one sail of the line, twelve frigates, thirteen fire-ships, and eight yachts.

The negotiations for peace opened at Breda the 20th May 1667, the King of England throwing as many obstacles in the way as lay in his power. Ruyter sailed from the Texel with fifty vessels, and on the 18th June took post at the mouth of the Thames, from whence he detached the Vice-admiral with seventeen sail and some fire-ships. On the 10th the fort at Sheerness fell into the hands of the Dutch, who burnt the magazines there. This success spread great consternation in London.

The

The same Vice-admiral, on the 12th, burnt three ships at the entrance of the Medway, near Chatham. On the 13th he proceeded with six ships of war and five fire-ships as far as Upnor Castle; on the 14th returned down the Thames, taking with him the Royal Charles: he damaged several others, and burnt the Royal Oak. Whilst part of the fleet blockaded the entrance of the Thames, Ruyter proceeded with the rest to Portsmouth, intending to set fire to the vessels in the harbour; but not being able to effect it, he bore away to the west, proposing to land at Torbay: there he was repulsed, and took post before Hope, where he did considerable damage.

The advantages which Ruyter obtained removed the impediments raised by Charles II. to a peace, which was signed at Breda on the 31st July, and put an end at once to the hostilities and successes of the Dutch admiral.

37.
Descent of the Earl of
Argyle in Scotland,
1685.

The Earl of Argyle landed in Scotland on the 19th May 1685, with but three small vessels, and arms for five hundred men. He was taken the 17th June, and beheaded.

38.
Duke of Monmouth lands
at Lyme, 1685.

The Duke of York, brother to Charles II. succeeded him under the name of James II. The Duke of Monmouth, Charles's natural son, made some attempts to depose him. He left the Texel on the 24th May, with a thirty-gun ship, and two other vessels. He was kept by contrary winds nineteen days at sea, without falling in with any of the ships which were cruising for him. On the 11th June he went on shore with eighty men, near Lyme, of which town he made himself master, and there published a manifesto, declaring that his only motive for taking up arms was the support of the nation's rights.

He left Lyme on the 15th June with two thousand men who had joined him, and on the 18th reached Taunton, where he was received with acclamation, as he was at Bridgwater. On the 6th July he was attacked by the King's troops, defeated, and on the 15th executed.

39. William III. takes possession of England, 1688. } The Prince of Orange, James's son-in-law, was for a long time a quiet spectator of the religious and political troubles which agitated England under the government of his father-in-law. All parties united with the friends of liberty in offering to receive him at their head, to rescue them from the oppression under which they laboured. This he attempted, and made the necessary preparations with inconceivable secrecy. Helvoetsluys was the place of his embarkation. The celebrated Mareschal de Schomberg accompanied him. His fleet was composed of fifty ships of war, twenty-five fire-ships, and four hundred transports, with an army of five thousand horse and ten thousand foot. Two hours after he had put to sea, the wind blew so violently from the west, that his ships were almost entirely dispersed. The time he was compelled to wait for a favourable wind he employed in repairing the damage his fleet had sustained. In the afternoon of the 1st November it again set sail, and a signal was made for steering to the west. The Prince of Orange had ordered it in two divisions, one of which made a feint of steering towards Scotland, but formed a junction soon afterwards; and they continued their course together. On the 3d the fleet entered the Channel, and lay to between Dover and Calais to wait for those ships which had fallen astern. The coasts of France and England were lined with an innumerable multitude of spectators, affording a sight as beautiful as it was flattering.

The wind which blew the fleet of the Prince of Orange towards England, kept that of James II. in port, so that the sea was perfectly clear for them. On the 5th the Dutch continued their course, intending to land at Dartmouth or Torbay. During the night they found that they had passed

passed the places fixed upon for their disembarkation, and were fearful of being obliged to land at Falmouth, or somewhere else equally inconvenient. Soon after rose a southerly wind, which carried them directly into the roadstead of Torbay, the most favourable landing-place for the cavalry. The disembarkation was effected on the 5th without any resistance. To accelerate it, flat-bottomed boats went ashore in the vicinity with equal ease. The device which the flag bore was, "*The liberties of England:*" and underneath, "*I will maintain them.*" His first act upon setting foot on shore was to publish a manifesto, wherein the wrongs of the English government were particularly enumerated. He announced that he came to remedy so many grievances, that his only means were to secure the nation against the pernicious counsels of those who were in the King's confidence, and to convoke a parliament freely elected, which would assure the public liberty.

The army quitted Torbay on the 6th, the soldiers themselves carrying their tents and three days provisions. The Prince of Orange directed his march for Exeter, where he remained ten days, to give his troops time to refresh, and the partisans of liberty the power of joining him. The whole country ranged itself successively on his side. From Exeter he went to Salisbury, where a great number of the officers and soldiers of James II. came to serve under his colours. The defection in the royal army afterwards became general, and the Prince of Orange arrived at London without opposition.

The English received with eagerness, and sang with enthusiasm, even in the royal army, songs wherein the papists and royalists were very rudely spoken of. This incident is worthy of notice, only as it served to make known and redouble the general discontent.

James II. was compelled to fly with his family to France. William assembled under the name of a convention a parliament which declared the throne

throne vacant, offered it to the Prince of Orange, who accepted it, limited the power of the King, and rights of the people, and prescribed to James's son-in-law the conditions whereon he was to reign.

40. } Louis XIV. equipped a squadron at Brest, on
Descent of King James at } board of which King James embarked, on the
Dublin, 1689. } 12th May. It was composed of twenty-three
ships of war, and innumerable transports, under the command of Château Renaud. It dispersed the English fleet, and landed January 2d, at Dublin. The famous battle of the Boyne, which James lost a short time after, put an end to his pretensions.

41. } Tourville, with seventy-two ships of war,
Landing of the French at } met the English and Dutch combined fleet, com-
Teignmouth, 1690. } posed of about sixty sail. The engagement lasted
six hours, when the latter was overcome; seventeen English or Dutch ships, shattered and dismasted, ran aground upon the coast of England, and the remainder fled for shelter into the Thames. The French, remaining masters of the seas, profited by this advantage, to make a descent upon the coasts of Great Britain. They arrived on the 1st August in Torbay, with forty-eight shallops, and some galleys, carrying 1800 chosen men, commanded by Estrées. This kind of vessel was made choice of, because, being lower than the others, they are less exposed to the fire of the enemy. The landing was effected on the 5th of August in Teignmouth Bay, in sight of twelve English ships. Two hundred and fifty militia, intrenched in this bay, ran away at the first shots fired from the French galleys; the twelve English vessels were burnt; and the French re-embarked without the loss of a single man.

42. } Tyrconnel crossed into Ireland at the begin-
Tyrconnel lands in Ire- } ning of the year 1691, to support the Irish
land, 1691. } against William III. He brought with him
provisions and warlike stores. This was followed by another force,

furnished by Louis XIV. which reached Limerick 19th June, under convoy of twelve men of war. It was composed of general officers, engineers, 1200 pioneers, 200 horses, and nineteen pieces of cannon; but this assistance did not prevent General Ginckel from reducing Ireland to subjection.

43. } The Pretender had attempted several descents
 Descent of the Pretender's } in England in 1708, 1717, and 1719, alternately
 son in Scotland, 1745. } assisted by France and Spain, none of which had
 met with the desired success. Prince Charles Edward Stuart, having been unable to obtain direct aid from France and Spain to validate his father's right to the throne, applied to a merchant at Nantes, who supplied him with a frigate of eighteen guns, on board which he embarked the 12th June. This frigate was escorted by a sixty-four gun ship, called the Elizabeth, which a Dunkirk Captain had fitted out. It was then an established custom of government to lend ships of war to merchants, on condition of their paying to the state a fixed sum, and supporting the crew at their own expense during the voyage. The son of the Pretender landed in a little district in Scotland, called Moidart, and procured partisans without much difficulty. France and Spain sent him, at different times, succours of men and money, which landed with the same facility. This expedition was followed by the famous battle of Culloden, whereby all the Pretender's hopes were destroyed.

49. } In the month of October 1759, a squadron,
 Thurot lands at Carrick- } which had been some time equipping at Dunkirk,
 ferry, 1760. } under the command of M. de Thurot, escaped
 from that port, in spite of the vigilance of the English admiral in the Downs, and arrived at Gottenburgh in Sweden, from whence it proceeded to Bergen in Norway. His instructions were to make occasional descents upon the coast of Ireland, and divide and distract the attention of the government in that kingdom. The original armament consisted of
 the

the Marechal de Belleisle of 44 guns, the Begon, Blonde, and Terpsichore, each 30 guns, and le Marante of 24, having on board 1270 soldiers and 700 sailors. Two hundred of the troops were, however, disembarked, on account of sickness, before they sailed, and between Gottenburgh and Bergen they lost company of the Begon during a violent storm. After being detained nineteen days by stress of weather at Bergen, they set sail for the western highlands of Scotland, and came in sight of the northern part of Ireland in the latter end of January. Thurot's intention was to land in the vicinity of Derry; but the wind growing tempestuous blew them out to sea, where the Marante parted company, and never again joined. After encountering all the dangers of storms and famine, they left the island of Isla, where they put in for provisions; and again this spirited commander made his appearance, filling the whole kingdom with alarm. The weather no sooner permitted than he steered for the Bay of Carrickfergus in Ireland, and, after due preparation, on the 21st February 1760, effected an unopposed descent with 600 men. Lieutenant-colonel Jennings, who commanded four companies of raw, undisciplined troops, ordered the French prisoners there to be sent to Belfast, and made the best dispositions for guarding the town which circumstances would permit. A regular attack was soon commenced, and maintained by the British with their usual spirit, until all their ammunition was expended, when they retired in good order to the castle, which was in all respects untenable, not only on account of the wall having a breach fifty feet in width, but also from the total want of provision and ammunition. The assailants were nevertheless repulsed in their first attack, even after the gate was burst open, the enthusiastic heroism of Britons supplying the want of shot with stones and rubbish. The gallant corps was obliged to surrender, though not unconditionally, as they were not to be sent prisoners to France, but to be ransomed by sending an equal number of French prisoners in their place. It was also agreed, that neither the castle should be demolished nor the town plundered, the mayor and corporation furnishing the French troops with necessary provisions. The

enemy after this did not attempt to make any further advance into the country, the inhabitants of which, with a laudable and resolute loyalty, pouring in great numbers into Belfast to volunteer their services, together with a considerable number of regulars, which had by this time assembled. Thurot therefore, after having levied a moderate contribution, precipitately re-embarked, and putting to sea, was, about nine o'clock on the morning of the 28th, brought to by Captain John Elliot with three frigates. After a warm action for an hour and a half, Captain Elliot's lieutenant boarded the Belleisle, and striking her colours with his own hand, the French commander submitted, and his example was instantly followed by the other two, which were carried into the bay of Ramsay, Isle of Man, to be repaired. The loss of the English in killed and wounded did not exceed forty men, but the enemy lost above 300, among whom was the gallant Thurot himself. The victor had not even the consolation to perform the last offices to his brave enemy, for his body was thrown into the sea during the hurry of the engagement by his own people. (This account was altogether omitted by the French Editor.)

On the 10th December 1796, seventeen ships of the line, some of which were lost in the passage of the Raz, and several frigates, carrying 18,000 men, sailed from Brest for Bantry Bay. Till that time, it was generally understood that a descent could not be effected without transports; but in the present instance they were fortunate enough to judge the best transport vessels to be those which carried the greatest number of guns, and no others were taken. It was resolved, that if a landing could not be made good in Bantry, it should take place in the river Shannon. Forty English ships, blocking up Brest harbour, did not discover the departure of the fleet before it had been three days out. On the 27th rose a thick fog, whereby the signals were misconceived; and the La Fraternité frigate, which carried the chief land and sea officers, found itself separated from the armament. They arrived before

before the bay on the 29th. The absence of the commanding officers rendered the situation of the fleet embarrassing in the extreme. Contrary winds, and other circumstances, prevented the execution of the measures which had been taken; and the fleet regained Brest at different periods, having lost two ships of the line and three frigates.

45. } On the 22d February 1797, the coast of De-
Landing of 1200 men near } vonshire, which lies at the mouth of the British
Fishguard, 1797. } Channel, was alarmed by the appearance of two
French frigates, a corvette, and a lugger, which scuttled several small
vessels in the harbour of Ilfracombe; and on the evening of that day 1200
men were landed near Fishguard, on the east coast of Pembrokeshire.
They immediately laid down their arms, and, the frigates having quitted
the coast, were made prisoners of war.

46. } A rebellion (a most particular account of which
The French land in Ire- } has been published by Sir Richard Musgrave,
land, 1798. } Bart.) had for some time existed in Ireland, and
at last broke out with such violence and animosity, as called for the most
vigorous and decided measures to suppress it. An opportunity more fa-
vourable to the French interest had never occurred; and accordingly,
after a lapse of some time, an expedition was fitted out, consisting of
three frigates, with 1500 land forces, principally officers, engineers, &c.
under the command of General Humbert, forming a complete skeleton
of an army, intended for appointment to the organized force of the
rebels, which they were taught to believe only wanted officers to enable
them to defeat the utmost strength of their lawful rulers. This armament
sailed from Rochfort at the beginning of August, and eluding the vigi-
lance of the British cruisers, though seventeen days at sea, on the 22d,
appeared off the Irish coast, and landed in Killala Bay, in the county
of Mayo, where, meeting with no resistance, they proceeded to attack
the town of Killala; which being almost unprotected by military, they
entered,

entered, and took an officer and twenty men of the Prince of Wales's fencibles prisoners, and the Bishop of Killala (Dr. Stock) and his two daughters, whom they detained as hostages. They brought with them a considerable quantity of arms and sixteen pieces of cannon; and, as they were soon joined by a number of the disaffected, proceeded several miles up the country to Castlebar, where they fell in with and attacked a body of about 2000 men, under the command of General Hutchinson, who, whether he was taken by surprise, or treachery manifested itself in the ranks, or both, instantly gave way, and he was obliged to make a speedy retreat, leaving behind him six pieces of cannon. Emboldened by this success, they moved on to Castlebar, from which place they retreated on the night of the 3d September, in consequence of the Lord Lieutenant's (Marquis Cornwallis) advancing in great force.

General Humbert had, on the 31st August, issued a proclamation, being a model of a provisional government for the county of Connaught, whereof John Moore was appointed president; but he was soon after taken and hanged.

The Marquis Cornwallis made the necessary dispositions either for supporting a general attack, or intercepting their retreat. On the 8th, General Lake met the enemy near Ballinamuck, and instantly attacked them. Their resistance was but of short duration, when they surrendered at discretion; and thus closed a career which had certainly been prolonged far beyond the time which was generally thought to be necessary for the reduction of so contemptible a force; and the existence of which, for a moment, could alone be attributed to the distraction and ferment too prevalent in that country.

47.
Descent effected by a single
ship to favour an insur-
rection in 1798.

The last-mentioned expedition appeared to be but a part of three, the two others of which were forwarding at Dunkirk and Brest. Early in September the brig Anacreon, the only vessel of the

the whole armanent which could effect its escape from the former port, going north about, reached the coast of Ireland, and brought to at Raghlin Island on the 16th. The notorious hoary rebel General Napper Tandy was on board, who, early in the morning, went on shore, to try the effect his name and presence might have upon his countrymen; most of whom, however, betook themselves to flight. He was accompanied in his descent by General Rey, and about 200 of the crew, who were mostly Irish. Finding he could gain no proselytes, notwithstanding he published a manifesto, saying, that he came to break their fetters or die at their head; and desiring them to pay no attention to any concessions of the British government; and that he had brought plenty of arms, with artillery, worked by men who had spread terror through the globe; he immediately re-embarked, and stood off to the north-east without interruption.

48. } The most formidable force in appearance and
 Ineffe&tual attempt at Don- } actual strength was, however, yet to make its
 negal Bay in Ireland, } attempt, and failed, in consequence, on the 16th
 1798. } September from Brest. It consisted of one ship
 of eighty guns, eight frigates, and a schooner, containing 3600 men
 under General Hardi, with great quantities of arms and stores of every
 kind.

On the 12th October, the Rosses bearing S. S. W. five leagues, after a long chase, this squadron was engaged of Tory Island, the N. W. point of Ireland, by the Canada, Robust, Foudroyant, Magnanime, Ethalion, Melampus, and Amelia, the first three of the line, under the command of Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart. who, after a severe engagement, captured the Hoche of eighty guns and four frigates, and very much crippled those which, for a time, made their escape. Three of them anchored on the day following in Donegal Bay, and sent a boat and sixty

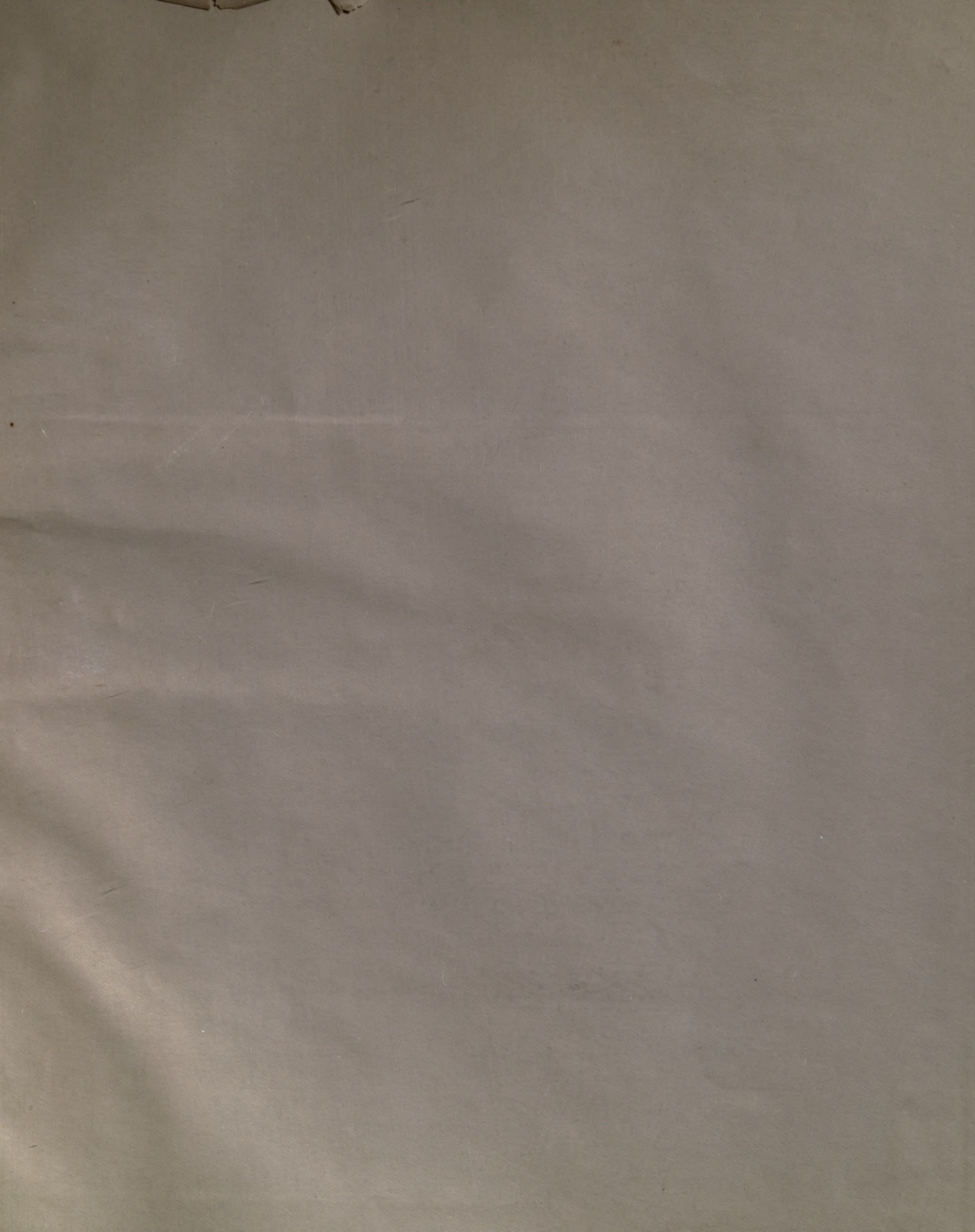
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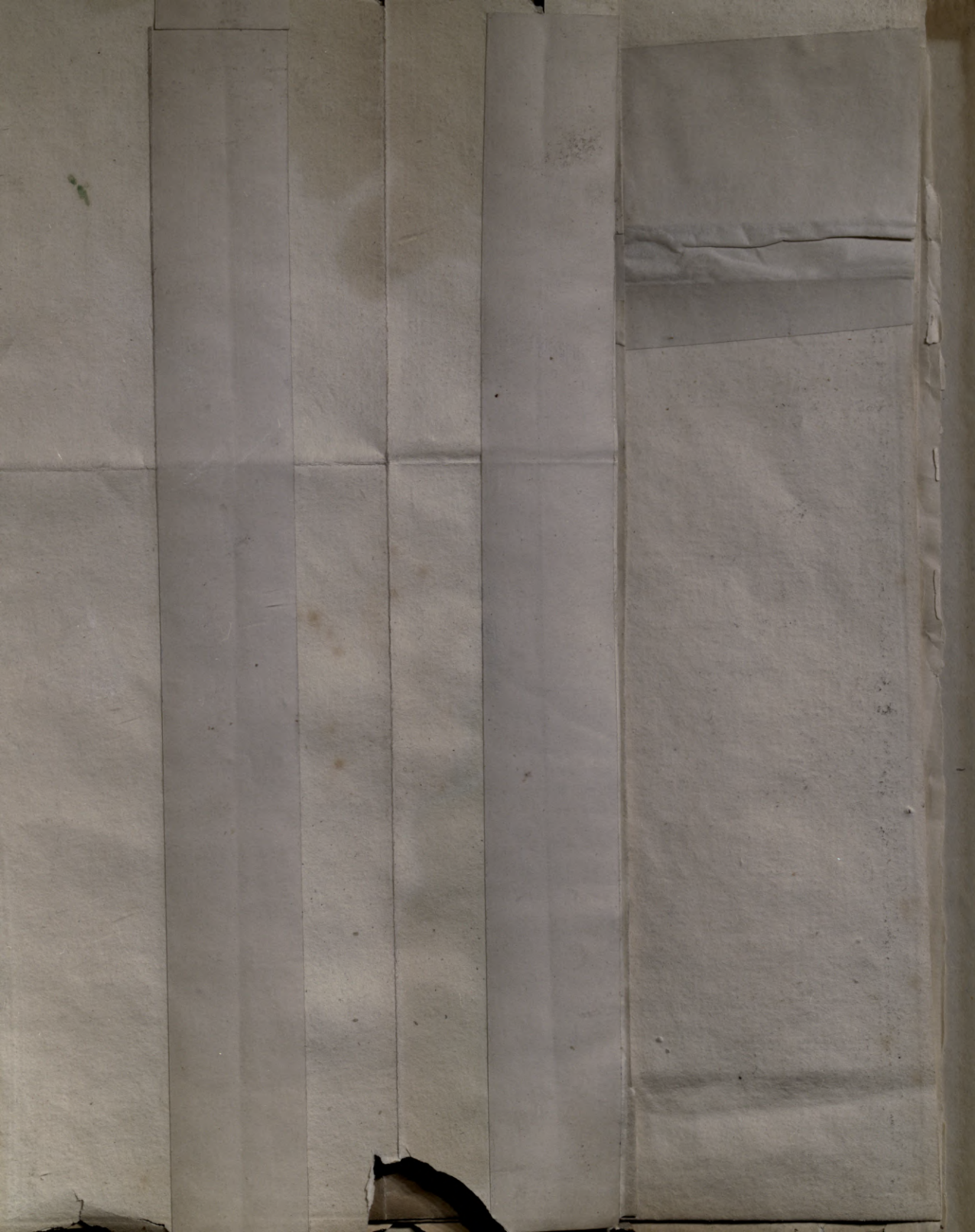
men on shore, who were repulsed in their attempts to land by the Mount Charles yeomanry, commanded by Captain Montgomery.

L'Immortalité, of 44 guns, was afterwards captured by the Fishguard frigate (formerly La Résistance. See No. 45), with great slaughter, 150 of her men being either killed or wounded. On the 18th of October Captain Durham, in the Anson, fell in with and engaged La Loire of fifty guns, which struck after having had 123 of her crew killed and wounded.

Thus, by the judicious arrangement of a vigilant Administration at home, and the gallantry and skill of our officers and ships companies on the sea, was defeated another effort of a perfidious, designing enemy, to whom, as well as to ourselves, this may probably serve as a not unprofitable lesson, from whence may be inferred, that so long as England remain master of the sea, and Englishmen, with a just regard to their own happy state, stand true to themselves, and their illustrious and beneficent King, all the machinations and designs of an enemy upon their country will without difficulty be put down, as they have been before, and shall soon be again, if the enemy, not profiting by former example, dare attempt to put his rash threats in execution.

THE END.





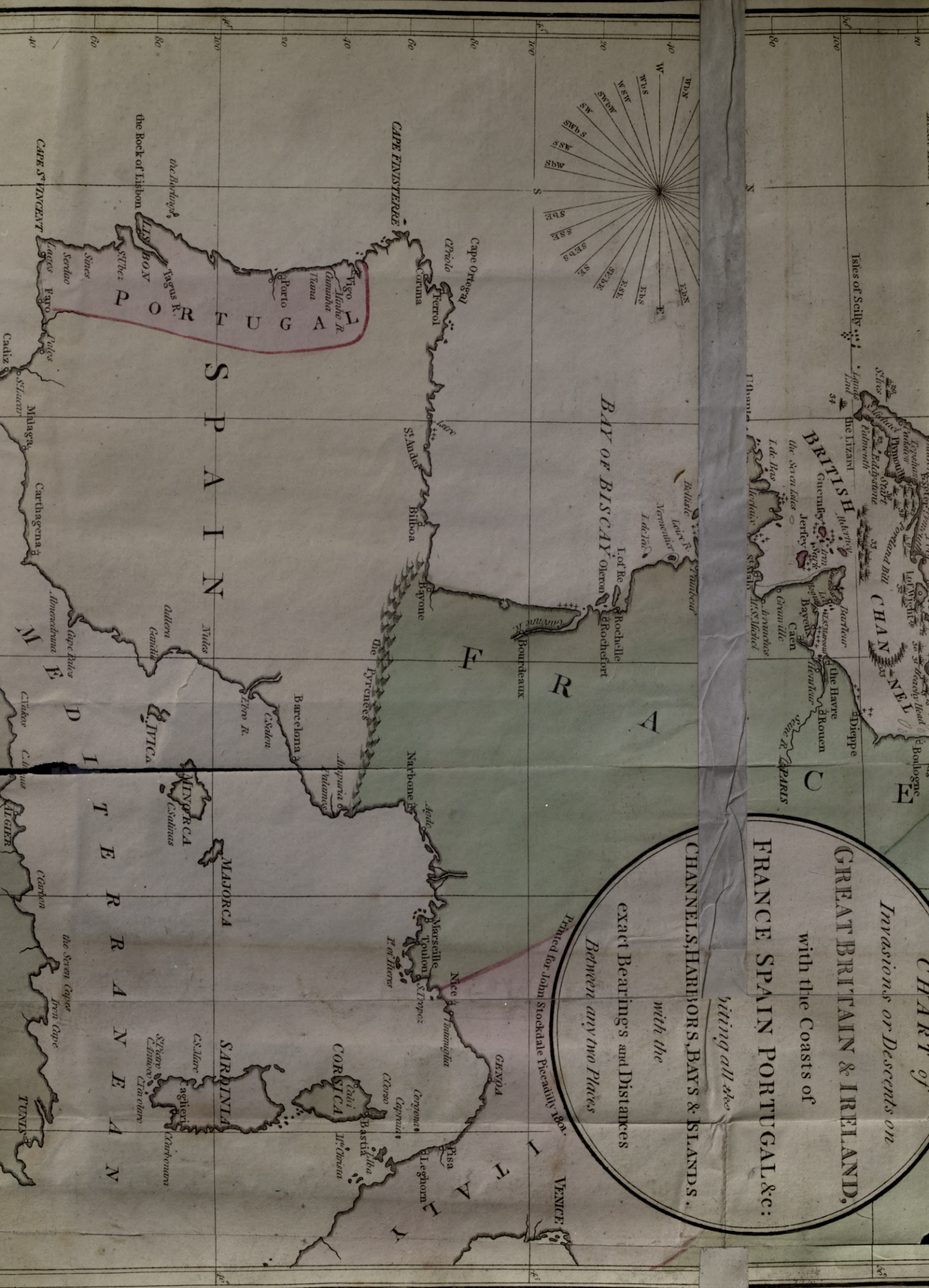


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